

POLICE COMMISSION

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MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
BETHEL POLICE COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, AUG 17, 2016
MUNICIPAL CENTER, 1 SCHOOL ST MEETING ROOM "B"

ATTENDING:

CHAIRMAN MIKE DUFF

COMMISSIONER ANTHONY RUBINO COMMISSIONER RICHARD KOLWICZ COMMISSIONER AMY MANNION

CHIEF JEFFREY FINCH

ABSENT:

COMMISSIONER RICHARD BARTON

ATTENDANCE:

Police Officers 2

Citizens 1

Chairman Duff opened the meeting at 5:05 p.m. The Commission pledged allegiance to the flag.

Review of Past Minutes

Chairman Duff noted an addition to 5c in minutes of 7/20/16 as follows: "When the live tree is taken down the sign will be visible".

Motion by Chairman Duff to accept the minutes of 7/20/16; seconded by Comm Kolwicz – unanimous.

2. Applicant Interviews

At 5:08 motion by Comm Kolwicz to go into executive session and invite Chief Finch and Captain Pugner as needed to attend; seconded by Comm Rubino – unanimous.

The Commission came out of executive session at 7:32.

At 7:35 Commission paused for a restroom break.

At 7:38 Commission came back into session.

Motion by Chairman Duff to offer employment as a Bethel police officer to Gabrielle Ditullio, Shawn Mendenhall and Allison Lockwood in such order, conditional upon available openings within the Department within the next 90 days subject to a satisfactory background investigation and such other standard and regular requirements of the State of Connecticut and the Town of Bethel; seconded by Comm Kolwicz – unanimous.

Budget Report

a) Comptrollers Report Comm Rubino questioned clothing allowance items. Comm Kolwicz questioned a capital item purchase.

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b) Overtime Report

Chief Finch reported overtime expenses as continuing to climb and sees no relief in this area until January or February when officers now at the Academy complete field training and officers on injury leave are back at work.

4. Old Business

a) Monthly Reports

Noteworthy were year-to-date Detective Bureau opening 25 ID theft cases and 10 death investigations.

5. New Business

Main St – Do Not Block Driveway Sign

At the entrance of the condominium at 39 Main St, Lt Dickinson recommended the installation of a "Do Not Block Driveway" sign.

Motion by Chairman Duff to install a "Do Not Block Driveway" sign at 39 Main St; seconded by Comm Kolwicz – unanimous.

• 23 Payne Rd – Subdivision

Lt Dickinson's letter describes this as a subdivision of property only with no construction plans. A sightline problem on a curve would exist if any future construction plans materialize. The Commission had no comment or motion on this issue.

6. Correspondence

Numerous

In response to numerous police related national events, the Department has received a "barrage" of letters of support and food drop offs according to Chief Finch. Letters have been posted on internal bulletin boards

7. Police Building

Review/Approve Police Building Plans

The Building Committee asked that the Police Commission be made aware of and is satisfied with changes to the proposed police building so the project can move forward with bid proposals on construction. Mr Palmer of the Building Committee was present. Sgt Durkin detailed the no cost interior changes using old and new plans. Chief Finch stated that small changes may still be made which do not impact overall costs. These changes can be made, according to Mr Palmer, up to the time it goes out for bids. Motion by Comm Mannion to accept the plans as amended with the qualification that additional minor changes without significant cost impact be allowed; seconded by Comm Rubino – unanimous.

8. Chief's Report

The Chief briefly described the ongoing nationwide discussions concerning body vs car cameras.

Discussion concerning the monies of Mr Small's estate left to the PD and anticipated spending. Several options were floated by the Chief, Capt Pugner and Commission members.

Commissioner Comments Comm Mannion stated her gratitude for the ride-alongs scheduled by Sgt McKenzie.

Comm Kolwicz asked about the Maple Av and Maple Av Ext accidents. Corrections associated with the stop sign and the reapplication of a stop bar were detailed by Sgt Durkin.

Comm Rubino asked that the School and Wooster St crosswalk be repainted as it is very faded.

At 8:25 motion by Comm Kolwicz to adjourn; seconded by Comm Rubino – unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ferdinand Miller Jr

Secretary